

# Surguja dialect

**Surguja** is an Indo-Aryan language spoken in Chhattisgarh. It belongs to the Eastern Hindi subgroup.

## Speakers

Surguja is primarily spoken in Surguja, Jashpur, and Koriya districts of Chhattisgarh; and to a lesser extent in Raigarh and Korba.

Speakers of Surguja have often been conflated with those of Chhattisgarhi. Furthermore, as is the case with many Hindi languages and other regional languages, Surguja has often been subsumed under the all-encompassing bracket of Standard Hindi due to erroneous, arbitrary or politically-motivated categorisation.

## Classification

It was previously regarded by many as a dialect of Chhattisgarhi, and was designated as such by the linguist George A. Grierson in his comprehensive Linguistic Survey of India.<sup>[4][5]</sup> Indeed, Surguja possesses a lexical similarity of 71%-76% with Chhattisgarhi, according to Ethnologue.<sup>[6]</sup> In recent times, however, Surguja has come to be recognised as a distinct language.

<b>Surguja</b>	
<b>Native to</b>	India
<b>Region</b>	Chhattisgarh
<b>Native speakers</b>	1,738,256 (2011 census) <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Language family</b>	Indo-European <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Indo-Iranian</li> <li>▪ Indo-Aryan</li> <li>▪ Eastern Hindi</li> <li>▪ <b>Surguja</b></li> </ul>
<b>Writing system</b>	Devanagari <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Language codes</b>	
<b>ISO 639-3</b>	sgj
<b>Glottolog</b>	surg1246 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/surg1246">http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/surg1246</a> ) <sup>[3]</sup>

## References

1. "Statement 1: Abstract of speakers' strength of languages and mother tongues - 2011" ([http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011Census/Language\\_MTs.html](http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011Census/Language_MTs.html)). *Censusindia.gov.in*. Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India. Retrieved 2018-07-07.
2. Surguja dialect (<https://www.ethnologue.com/21/language/sgj>) at *Ethnologue* (21st ed., 2018)
3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Surguja" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/surg1246>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
4. "The Record News" (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/books/lsl/lsl.php?volume=6&pages=286#page/220/mode/1up>). *Dsal.uchicago.edu*. Retrieved 22 December 2018.
5. [1] ([http://www-01.sil.org/iso639-3/cr\\_files/2011-166\\_sgj.pdf](http://www-01.sil.org/iso639-3/cr_files/2011-166_sgj.pdf))
6. "Surguja" (<https://www.ethnologue.com/language/sgj>). *Ethnologue.com*. Retrieved 22 December 2018.

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